

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

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USNMR SHAPE

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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 USNATO 4162

E.O. 11652: 12-31-81

TAGS: MCAP, NO, NATO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN FORCES FOR NATO

REF: USNATO 3619; USNATO 4043

SUMMARY. IN REPLY TO DPQ(73) NORWAY RECONFIRMS INTENTION TO IMPLEMENT ALMOST ALL OF PREVIOUSLY PLANNED MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS. THIS MEANS PROGRESS IS BEING MADE TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING SOME OF FORCE IMPROVEMENT MEASURES OUTLINED IN SPRING AD-70 REPORT AND NATO 1973-78 FORCE GOALS. HOWEVER, IN NORWEGIAN VIEW MANY OF THE HIGH COST IMPROVEMENT MEASURES ARE BEYOND ITS ECONOMIC REACH. CURRENT PLANS INCLUDE IMPROVEMENTS TO ANTITANK, LOW LEVEL AIR DEFENSE AND MARITIME CAPABILITIES. WORK ON NEXT LONG RANGE FIVE YEAR DEFENSE PLAN (1974-78) IS WELL UNDERWAY; PLAN IS TO BE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT THIS FALL. NO SIGNIFICANT NEW EQUIPMENT PROGRAMS ARE ANNOUNCED IN DPQ(73). BASIC COMMITMENT UNDERTAKEN FOR 1973 IS BEING MET. NO MAJOR CHANGES TO FUTURE FORCE STRUCTURE ARE PROJECTED. OVERALL PERSONNEL STRENGTH INCREASES VERY SLIGHTLY. COMPULSORY RETIREMENT AGE FOR OFFICERS HAS BEEN LOWERED. ANNUAL REFRESHER TRAINING FOR RESERVISTS CONTINUES TO BE A PROBLEM AREA, AS IS ARMY WRM. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC TABLES HAVE NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED TO NATO. AT MULTILATERAL REVIEW, USNATO PROPOSES TO ENCOURAGE NORWAY TO FULLY IMPLEMENT PLANNED ANTITANK, AIR DEFENSE AND MARITIME WEAPONRY

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IMPROVEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. FORCES. A. ARMY. FORCE CONTRIBUTION PROMISED, PLUS A TENTH SECOND ECHELON INFANTRY BRIGADE (NOT PROMISED), ARE BEING FURNISHED IN 1973. 1974 COMMITMENT IS ONE OPERATIONAL STATUS A1 INFANTRY BRIGADE, TWO B1 REGIMENT COMBAT TEAMS (RCT,) AND 10 C1 RCTS. SOME ELEMENTS OF A1 BRIGADE NORTH ARE CALLED UP ON MOBILIZATION AND THEY SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED C1. PROJECTED 1975-78 FORCE STRUCTURE FOR MAJOR COMBAT UNITS IS THE SAME AS 1974 COMMITMENT. MEMORANDUM STATES 6 TO 8 AT SQUADRONS ARE PLANNED TO BE ESTABLISHED BEGINNING IN 1975. FINAL DECISION ON AT PROJECT IS EXPECTED THIS FALL. COUNTRY PLANS FOR READINESS STATUS AND MECHANIZATION OF UNITS CONTINUE TO DIFFER FROM NATO 1973-78 FORCE GOALS.

(1) EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICS. MAJOR THRUST OF EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION PROGRAM IS DIRECTED TOWARD IMPLEMENTING FORCE IMPROVEMENTS RECOMMENDED BY AD-70 STUDY AND NATO FORCE GOALS, WHEN THESE IMPROVEMENTS ARE WITHIN ECONOMIC REACH. DURING 1972 MULTILATERAL REVIEW, NORWAY STATED NATO GOAL TO MECHANIZE UNITS IN NORTH NORWAY HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO NORWEGIAN STANDARDS AND THAT FURTHER MECHANIZATION WOULD NOT BE USEFUL IN LIGHT OF MISSION AND TERRAIN IN NORTH NORWAY. LEOPARD TANK INVENTORY REMAINS AT 84. SEVERAL IMPROVEMENTS TO ANTI-ARMOR DEFENSE ARE PLANNED. THE 6 TO 8A AT SQUADRONS MENTIONED ABOVE ARE TO BE EQUIPPED WITH ENTAC/SS-11 AT MISSILES AND SP AT GUNS (DTAT 90 MM INSTALLED IN RECONDITIONED M24 LIGHT TANKS). BY 1976 ALL INFANTRY BATTALIONS AND COMPANIES AND AT SQUADRONS ARE TO BE EQUIPPED WITH CARL GUSTAF SHORT RANGE AT WEAPONS WITH IMPROVED ROCKET. MEMORANDUM ADDS ALL FIELD INFANTRY BATTALIONS WILL ALSO BE EQUIPPED WITH MILAN/TOW AT WEAPONS AND THROUGHOUT THE ARMY LAW 72 WILL BE REPLACING 88MM ROCKET LAUNCHERS DURING 1973-77. AIR DEFENSE IS BEING IMPROVED THROUGH PROCUREMENT OF BLOWPIPE/REDEYE MISSILES (EQUIPPING 44 INF BATTALIONS BY 1977) AND 20 MM ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS (EQUIPPING 13 AA BATTALIONS; 5 HAVE ALREADY BEEN REARMED). NEW MILAN/TOW AND BLOWPIPE/REDEYE DO NOT APPEAR ON SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION EQUIPMENT LIST.

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MENT TABLES (SDT) AND HOLDINGS FOR SHORT RANGE AT WEAPONS DO NOT INCREASE; SDT PAYMENT SCHEDULES REPORT FUNDING (MOSTLY AFTER 1978) OF MODERN AIR DEFENSE (150 MILLION KRONER) AND SHORT (141 MILLION KRONER) AND MEDIUM (145 MILLION KRONER) RANGE AT SYSTEMS. DELIVERY OF NEW RANGE FINDERS AND COMPUTERS FOR ARTILLERY UNITS WILL BE COMPLETED BY 1977. ACQUISITION OF MODERN RADIO SETS, CARGO CARRIERS (M548), 1/4 TO ONE TON VEHICLES AND NBC DEFENSE EQUIPMENT IS ALSO PLANNED. NORWEGIAN WRM POLICY IS TO OBTAIN 30 COMBAT DAYS (35 SGN RATES) OF AMMUNITION FOR ALL ESTABLISHED UNITS BY 1978. BUT AMMUNITION TABLES SHOW 7 OF 12 REPORTED ITEMS BELOW 30 DAYS BY 1978; HOWEVER ONLY ENTAC/SS-11 MISSILES ARE SUBSTANTIALLY BELOW 30 DAYS. ADDITIONAL AMMO FOR 20 MM AA GUN, 105 MM TANK GUN AND 155MM HOWITZER IS BEING

PROCURED TO MEET WRM GOALS. PRESTOCKING OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT FOR ONE RCT IN FORWARD STORAGE SITES IS TO BEGIN IN 1974. CONSTRUCTION OF AMMUNITION DEPOTS AND GARAGES FOR MOBILIZATION UNITS IS WELL UNDERWAY.

2. PERSONNEL. ACTUAL STRENGTH IS 16,600 IN 1972; 16,770 IN 1973; CLIMBING SLIGHTLY TO 17,740 OVER 1974 TO 1978 PLANNING PERIOD. OVER 90 PERCENT OF NORWEGIAN ARMY IS IN NATO ASSIGNED-EARMARKED UNITS. ACTUAL STRENGTH IS ROUGHLY 13 PERCENT OF WAS, THUS MAJOR RELIANCE CONTINUES TO BE PLACED ON MOBILIZATION SYSTEM. A LITTLE OVER 117 THOUSAND RESERVISTS (ALL FOR NATO UNITS) ARE TO BE RECALLED DURING FIRST 15 DAYS OF MOBILIZATION. ACTUAL REFRESHER TRAINING PICTURE HAS IMPROVED. CLOSE TO 19 THOUSAND RESERVISTS RECEIVED ANNUAL REFRESHER TRAINING IN 1972; A LITTLE OVER 19 THOUSAND ARE SCHEDULED FOR 1973. OVER HALF OF THESE RESERVISTS RECEIVED TRAINING FOR 16 TO 21 DAYS. OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE REFRESHER TRAINING IS NOT BRIGHT. TRAINING OF J-DAY FORCES IS CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY. MOBILIZATION UNITS ARE TRAINED DURING REFRESHER TRAINING PERIODS.

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B. NAVY. COMMITMENT UNDERTAKEN FOR 1973 IS BEING MET. 1974 MJOR SHIP COMMITMENT CONSISTS OF 5 DESTROYER ESCORTS (4 CAT A1, ONE C5), 2 A1 COASTAL ESCORTS AND 15 SUBMARINES (8 A1, 4 B2, 3 C4). ANOTHER 67 SMALLER SHIPS (41 IN CAT A1) ARE ALSO COMMITTED TO NATO. NAVAL STRUCTURE IN NUMBERS WILL BE THE SAME OVER 1975 TO 1978 PERIOD AS 1974 COMMITMENT, EXCEPT MODERN COASTAL MINELAYERS (MCMS) WILL REPLACE EXISTING MCMS ON A 2 FOR 4 BASIS. DPQ(72) REPORTED THAT NEW MCMS WOULD HAVE

A 50 PERCENT HIGHER MINELAYING CAPABILITY.

(1) EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICS. DPQ(73) RECONFIRMS MOST OF MODERNIZATION PROGRAM PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED AND INDICATES THERE WILL BE SOME SLIPPAGES IN IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE. ONE OCEAN EXCORT IS EQUIPPED WITH SEA SPARROW SURFACE-TO-AIR AND PENGUIN SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES; THE OTHER FOUR ESCORTS ARE TO FOLLOW. ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE IS 1977. THE 15 KOBLEN CLASS SUBS ARE TO BE MODERNIZED DURING 1973-1977 PERIOD WITH NEW LONG RANGE WIRE GUIDED TORPEDOES, FIRE CONTROL SYSTEMS, AND PERISCOPES. KOBLEN SUB IS TO BE REPLACED IN POST-1978 PERIOD. 26 FPBS (20 STORM CLASS AND 6 SNOGG CLASS) ARE BEING FITTED WITH PENGUIN; INSTALLATION OF LAUNCHERS IS SECRET

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TO BE COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR. 14 NEW DESIGN FPBS (MODIFIED SNOGG CLASS) EQUIPPED WITH PENGUIN WILL BEGIN REPLACING TJELD CLASS FPBS IN 1976; TYPE AND CLASS TO REPLACE LAST 6 OF 20 TJELD CLASS BOATS HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. TWO MODERN MINELAYERS ARE TO BE BUILT BY 1977. SEVEN LANDING CRAFT WITH MINELAYING CAPABILITY (TOTAL PROJECTED) HAVE NOW BEEN DELIVERED. A NEW SUPPORT SHIP (NATIONAL COMMAND) IS TO BE DELIVERED BY 1977. MEMORANDUM EMPHASIZES PLANS TO IMPROVE AND AUGMENT COASTAL ARTILLERY. TORPEDO BATTERIES ARE BEING MODERNIZED. NEW 75 MM GUNS ARE BEING INSTALLED, EXISTING COASTAL BATTERIES ARE BEING FITTED WITH ADVANCED FIRE CONTROL SYSTEMS, AND EXISTING CONTROLLED MINEFIELDS ARE BEING MODERNIZED. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS ALSO BEING MODERNIZED. AMMUNITION TABLES CONTINUE TO SHOW ALL REPORTED OPERATIONAL STOCKS AT 30 DAYS OR PLUS; SIGNIFICANT PROCUREMENT PLANS ARE FOR 150 NATI-SHIP TORPEDOES, 120 SEA SPARROW AND 250 PENGUIN MISSILES.

(2). PERSONNEL. ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH IS 8,200 IN 1972 AND 8,350 IN 1973. OVER 1974 TO 1978 PERIOD STRENGTH WAVES AROUND 8,300/8,400. APPARENTLY BOOKKEEPING ERROR THAT RESULTED IN REPORTING OF A LARGE REDUCTION IN NAVAL PERSONNEL IN DPQ(72) HAS NOW BEEN STRAIGHTENED OUT. SOME 2,400 NAVAL PERSONNEL ARE ASSIGNED TO SHIPS. ACTIVE STRENGTH MAKES UP ROUGHLY 33 PERCENT OF WAS. 22 THOUSAND RESERVISTS, ALL OF WHOM ARE TO BE RECALLED DURING FIRST 15 DAYS OF MOBILIZATION, ARE CARRIED ON RESERVIST ROLLS. 800 RESERVISTS RECEIVE REFRESHER TRAINING IN 1974 TO 1978 PERIOD. CAT A UNITS ARE MANNED AT 95 PERCENT OF WAS. MEMORANDUM REPORTS PROBLEM IN RECRUITING CAREER PERSONNEL.

C. AIR FORCE. AIRCRAFT SQUADRON COMMITMENT UNDERTAKEN FOR 1973 IS BEING MET. 1974 COMMITMENT CONSISTS OF ONE CF-104 ATTACK, TWO F-5 DUAL ATTACK/AIR DEFENSE, ONE F-5 DUAL TRAINING/ATTACK, ONE F104G AWX AND ONE RF-5 RECCE SQUADRONS AND FOUR SAM NIKE BATTERIES. ALL THE ABOVE UNITS ARE REPORTED AT A1 READINESS STATUS. UNIT ESTABLISHMENT (UE) OF ATTACK SQUADRONS IS 18; UE FOR AWX SQUADRON IS 16; AND UE FOR RECCE IS 12. SOME 21 AIRCRAFT ADDITIONAL TO UE (OPERATIONAL RESERVE) ARE

ALSO COMMITTED TO NATO. NUMBER OF SQUADRONS AND SQUADRON UE
(EXCEPT AWX SQUADRON DECREASES TO 15 IN 1978) REMAINS THE SAME
AS 1974 COMMITMENT OVER 1975 TO 1978 PERIOD. DUE TO NORMAL
ATTRITION NUMBER OF RESERVE AIRCRAFT IS EXPECTED TO DECLINE
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OVER PLANNING PERIOD. INTRODUCTION OF 4 SAM LOW BATTERIES STILL
PROJECTED FOR 1975. MAJOR DEVIATION FROM NATO 1973-78 FORCE
GOALS IS CONTINUED FAILURE TO PROVIDE ONE ADDITIONAL OFFENSIVE
AND ONE ADDITIONAL AWX SQUADRONS.

(1) EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICS. NO NEW SIGNIFICANT AIRCRAFT
ACQUISITION PLANS ARE REPORTED IN DPQ(73). IN LINE WITH PRE-
VIOUS PLANS, 22 DF104 ARE BEING PROCURED FROM CANADA. AFTER
RECONDITIONING, CF104 WILL REPLACE ONE F-5 SQUADRON IN ATTACK
ROLE IN 1974. EMBASSY OSLO REPORTED LAST YEAR THAT INTRODUC-
TION OF CANADIAN MODEL 104 WILL HAVE MUCH THE SAME EFFECT AS
THAT OF A NEW AIRCRAFT, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF SPARE PARTS AND
TRAINING. A SECOND F-5 SQUADRON IS BEING DISBANDED IN 1973.
UE AND RESERVE AIRCRAFT IN REMAINING F-5 SQUADRONS WILL BE AUG-
MENTED WITH AIRCRAFT FROM DEACTIVATED F-5 SQUADRONS. NEW GYRO
GUNSIGHT BEING INSTALLED ON F-5S. NIKE IS BEING IMPROVED IN
1973/74 WITH SAMCAP MODIFICATION. MEMORANDUM STATES A NEW GENE-
RATION OF AIR-TO-AIR AND AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILES IS TO BE INTRO-
DUCED IN POST-1978 PERIOD. PROCUREMENT OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE
EQUIPMENT FOR FIGHTER BOMBER AIRCRAFT IS PLANNED. IT IS ALSO
PLANNED TO ACQUIRE TWO AIRCRAFT WITH SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR
ECCM TRAINING. NADGE IMPROVEMENT PLAN HAS BEEN COMPLETE. AS
REGARDS SURVIVABILITY, MEMORANDUM INDICATES AIRCRAFT PROTECTION
PROGRAMS ARE DEVELOPING ACCORDING TO PLANS. PLANS COVER NATIONAL
RESPONSIBILITIES CONNECTED WITH SHAPE PHYSICAL PROTECTION PROGRAM
AND SPECIFIC NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PASSIVE DEFENSE MEASURES
AND LAA GUNS. IN ACCORD WITH NATO PLANS, SHELTERS ARE BEING
CONSTRUCTED FOR 70 PERCENT OF TACTICAL AIRCRAFT; PROJECTED
COMPLETION DATE IS EARLY 1974. FORCE TABLES INDICATE 3 ADDI-
TIONAL 40MM L70 BATTERIES WILL BE INTRODUCED IN 1974 AND FOUR
LOW LEVEL SAM BATTERIES IN 1974. TYPE OF NEW SAM MISSILE HAS
NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. NO OTHER DETAILS ON SURVIVABILITY PRO-
VIDED IN RESPONSE TO DPQ(73). MEMORANDUM STATES LOGISTIC SUP-
PORT IS CONSIDERED ADEQUATE. AMMUNITION TABLES INDICATE NA-
TIONAL GOAL IS 45 DAYS OF RESERVE STOCKS. AT BEGINNING AND END
OF PLANNING PERIOD, ONLY TWO MINOR ITEMS ARE BELOW 45 DAY LEVEL
(40MM L60 BEING PHASED OUT AND 150 GALLON F-5 DROPPABLE FUEL
TANK, 30 DAYS). SIGNIFICANT WEAPONRY IMPROVEMENT IS INTRODUCTION
OF CLUSTER BOMB, ROCKEYE II (FOR F-5) IN 1973.

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(2) PERSONNEL. ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH IS APPROXIMATELY 8,800 OVER 1972 TO 1978 PERIOD, EXCEPT IN 1973 WHEN STRENGTH REPORTED CLIMBS TO 9,900. NO EXPLANATION OF SUDDEN CHANGE IS GIVEN. REGULARS MAKE UP ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF ACTIVE FORCE. APPROXIMATELY 19 THOUSAND RESERVISTS ARE CARRIED ON ROLLS; ALL ARE TO BE RECALLED DURING FIRST 15 DAYS OF MOBILIZATION. 2,400 RESERVISTS ARE SCHEDULED EACH YEAR FOR REFRESHER TRAINING. FROM 1974 ONWARD FLYING HOURS PER AIRCREW FOR COMBAT AIRCRAFT IS 200 HOURS. FOR ATTACK AND RECCE, AIRCREW/AIRCRAFT RATIO IS 1.3: 1 FOR AWX 1.4:1. COMPULSORY RETIREMENT AGE FOR ALL OFFICERS IN ALL THREE SERVICES HAS RECENTLY BEEN LOWERED. THIS SHOULD HELP EASE "GENERATION GAP" BETWEEN AIR FORCE LEADERSHIP AND YOUNGER OFFICERS AND MEN REPORTED LAST FALL BY EMBASSY OSLO. MEMORANDUM, ON THE OTHER HAND, STATES AGE LEVEL DISTRIBUTION OF OFFICERS AND NCO'S IS EXPECTED TO REPRESENT AN INCREASING PROBLEM. SHORTAGES IN TECHNICAL SPECIALIST CONTINUE.

3. DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. A. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC SECTION OF REPLY TO DPQ(73) HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED BY NATO. LATEST AVAILABLE QUARTERLY QUESTIONNAIRE ON DEFENSE EXPENDITURES (STAT/QT/1973/2) REPORTS DEFENSE SPENDING OF \$541.6 MILLION IN 1972
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AND \$617.0 MILLION IN 1973 (AT 5.98 KRONER TO THE DOLLAR), WHICH IS JUST ABOUT A 14 PERCENT INCREASE IN MONETARY TERMS IN 1973 OVER 1972. EVEN THOUGH MUCH OF A PROJECTED 14 PERCENT VOLUME INCREASE NO DOUBT WILL BE WIPED OUT BY INFLATION, THE END RESULT SHOULD BE A MEANINGFUL REAL INCREASE IN DEFENSE SPENDING. THIS WOULD BE ESPECIALLY WELCOMED BECAUSE INCREASE IN DEFENSE SPENDING IN CONSTANT PRICES IN 1972 WAS ALMOST NULL.

B. MOMORANDUM STATES NEW LONG TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM FOR 1974-78 PERIOD IS TO BE PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT THIS AUTUMN.

MEMORANDUM ADDS INFLATIONARLY PRESSURES STILL IMPOSE BUDGET RESTRICTIONS; NORWAY PREDICTS DEFENSE BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 1974 WILL SHOW ABOUT A ONE PERCENT INCREASE IN REAL TERMS.

4. PROPOSED USNATO POSITION FOR MULTILATERAL EXAMINATION. AT MULTILATERAL EXAMINATION SESSION, USNATO PROPOSES TO ENCOURAGE NORWAY TO FULLY IMPLEMENT PLANNED ANTITANK, AIR DEFENSE AND MARITIME WEAPONRY IMPROVEMENTS, EVEN IF THIS WILL REQUIRE AN INCREASE IN DEFENSE SPENDING IN REAL TERMS. WELL KNOWN RISING EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL COSTS MAKE A REAL INCREASE EVEN MORE IMPORTANT. CURRENT PROJECTED 14 PERCENT VOLUME INCREASE REPRESENTS GENERAL MAGNITUDE OF EFFORT REQUIRED TO INSURE AN INCREASE IN REAL TERMS. HOWEVER, PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE REAL TERM INCREASES DO NOT APPEAR BRIGHT. WE ALSO PLAN TO POINT OUT NEED TO AUGMENT RESERVIST TRAINING PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF NORWAY'S HEAVY RELIANCE ON MOBILIZATION FORCES.
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